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The Selborne Society

Pioneers in Conservation

August, 2013 bulletin



A captivated audience during "Beyond the Veil"

Forthcoming Events:

- 3 Aug (Saturday) **Field Meeting, 2.00 pm Perivale wood Local Nature Reserve;** Ken and Rita Merrifield will lead us on a Minibeast hunt and tell us of the importance of minibeasts in the food web
- 10 Aug (Saturday) **Junior Section, 2pm at the Reserve** Conservation game - picnic in the meadow.
- 10 Aug (Saturday) **9.00 pm A Moth evening ... at the Reserve** another chance to explore the Reserve at night, armed with moth traps, and in the company of experts
- 11 Aug (Sunday) **Conservation Management** at the Reserve. 10.00 am
- 7 Sep (Saturday) **Field Meeting at the Reserve... Ferns 2.00 pm ...** Laura Belton will lead us on a new topic at the Reserve, exploring our damper places and finding out what we've got, and where. Be prepared to go to some surprising places in the Reserve.

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8 Sep (Sunday)	Conservation Management at the Reserve. 10.00 am		
14 Sep (Saturday)	Junior Section, 2.00 pm at the Reserve : Apples, sloes, blackberries – learn to make jam from them!		

New Building -

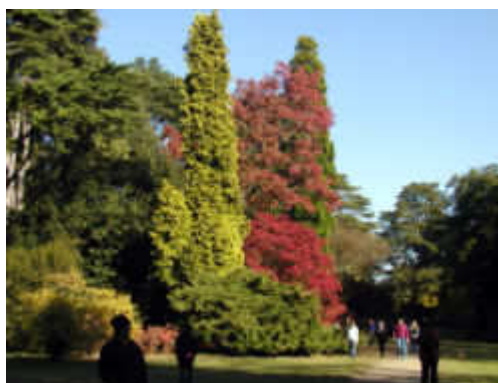
Progress continues; the plans are finalised, design and access statements completed. The Planning Application is poised to be submitted in the next day or so. I'll ask David to put a link to the plans on the website once the application is in.

It would be really good if, once the application is in, letters of support were to flood into the Planning Department.

We've put in for a grant - £50,000 from Veolia Environmental Trust, and will be submitting other applications too. As soon as results are known I will advise.

A part of the scheme is to use as much second hand material as we can, consistent with having a beautiful building at the end; so there will be a team of people working to salvage materials from a building in Walpole Park that is to be demolished very soon; we hope to salvage pine tongued and grooved cladding, that will line partition walls, some windows, that will form a "boot lobby" to the south of the new building, lots of electrical equipment, and a range of other materials. There will be a team working to harvest these - the current date is likely to be the weekend of the 17th August - and if you are likely to be free and help, then do please email contact@selbornesociety.org.uk.

Many thanks to Holy Trinity Church, Perivale, who have given us 40 excellent chairs (pre-loved!) which have replaced the ones from the Reserve, and will be suitable for the new building.



Coach Outings

Our next outing is on the 16th October, and will be to the [National Arboretum, Westonbirt](#) in Gloucester, a booking form can be downloaded from [here](#) - paper copies went out with the mailing. One error on the previously circulated fliers - the free admission for members of the RSH and Friends of Kew is no longer available - alas Westonbirt only let us know too late to amend the flier that went out with mailings;

At the time of writing, this outing is nearly full - just 6 places on a 53 seater coach; if you want to come it would be wise to email or phone to make sure we have a place for you. Once it is full we will build a reserve list against cancellations.

We've another coach outings planned to the Wildlife and Wetlands Trust Reserve at [Slimbridge](#) (February 2014), and we will be planning other 2014 outings soon - we'd like to do a couple; Ideally we like to have a coach journey of an hour or less, and suggestions for destinations will be gratefully received!

Keys ...

Now that the Perivale Library has reopened, the plan is that we will return some of the keys to the Library, and leave

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some at the Cafe Rendezvous, Unfortunately I've not had a chance to do this yet, and the Cafe is closed this week so at the moment there is no key loan facility, for which apologies.

Once both are supplied with keys, which will be a priority for next week, we will have improved arrangements, as follows:

Day	Library	Cafe Rendezvous
Monday	Closed	10:00 to 16:00
Tuesday	10:00 to 13:00 and 14:00 to 18:00	10:00 to 16:00
Wednesday	Closed	10:00 to 16:00
Thursday	10:00 to 13:00 and 14:00 to 18:00	10:00 to 16:00
Friday	10:00 to 13:00 and 14:00 to 17:00	10:00 to 16:00
Saturdays	9:00 to 13:00 and 14:00 to 17:00	Closed
Sunday	Closed	Closed
Bank Holidays and Bank Holiday Weekends, it is likely that neither will be open for business.		

The Cafe have warned that they are likely to be closed for a couple of weeks during August whilst building work takes place.

Situations Vacant:

The post of Minute Secretary remains vacant! It involves attending Council Meetings and the AGM taking notes and turning them into neat, typewritten Minutes! If you feel you could help us with this (there are usually just 4 meetings a year, and it is a huge help!) do email contact@selbornesociety.org.uk or phone Andy on 07878 594290 to discuss.

We are also still looking for a "Commissioning Editor" for the newsletter - someone to suggest suitable articles and invite worthy people to write them! again, if you are interested phone or email as above.

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Beyond the Veil

.The Mikron Theatre was fantastic; greatly aided by fine (fantastic) weather, the play was huge fun, expert ad libbing and wonderful songs. Plus a natural history and conservation message too what more could you ask.

The audience was about 180, we think - everyone seemed to enjoy the show

The Play DID go on!

Having arrived in their Barge and moored at the Ealing Canoe Club Mooring (to whom, thanks for permission) *les artistes* swiftly set up props, tuned instruments, and went on to give a fantastic performance

They'd like to come again next year watch this space.

Selborne Village, under threat ...

we received the following email from a resident of Selborne Village, asking for help:

I live in Selborne and am very fortunate to do so.

Our beautiful village is under attack from developers who want to build on open green spaces within the village

One development of 30 houses would increase the village housing by 10 per cent. This is on a field "Culverscroft", next to the sunken Cow lane. this is due to come before the planning committee the first week in August ([details](#)). You only have to read the developers rebuttal to CPRE to understand how little regard he had for the village

Another for 14 houses at Under the hill, ([details](#))

Both will spoil the tranquility and beauty of the village for residents and visitors alike, and impact on the ecology of the area.

. We need as many objections as possible to preserve our village.

Although we accept we need affordable house we think it should be a community decision on how to provide in a sympathetic way to the environment.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Best wishes

Maggie Shaw



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